

URBAN DISTRICT OF RHYMNEY

11 AUG 1955
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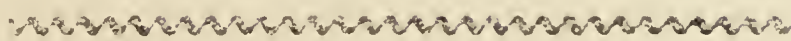
ANNUAL REPORT



OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF
HEALTH AND SANITARY
INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR

1954

Rhymney Urban District Council.



*With the compliments of the
Medical Officer of Health.*



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ANNUAL
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OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF
HEALTH AND SANITARY
INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR

1954



REPORT
ON THE
PROGRESS OF THE
WORK DURING THE
YEAR 1900

Rhymney

Urban District Council



Chairman (1954)	.....	Councillor P. E. Jones, J.P.
Vice Chairman (1954)	.....	Councillor Roger Williams
Clerk and Accountant to the Council	.....	H. H. Roberts, Esq. A.C.I.S

MEMBERS :

Upper Ward

Councillor Gomer Jones
(Died 31/10/54)
Councillor P. E. Jones J.P.
Councillor R. I. Doyle
Councillor J. R. Price

Middle Ward

Councillor Norman Gilbert
Councillor D. Thomas
Councillor K. Wilkins

Lower Ward

Councillor J. J. Williams
Councillor D. A. Moseley
Councillor W. H. Barter

Abertysswg Ward

Alderman W. J. Greene, J.P.
Councillor Roger Williams
Councillor J. Brewer

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY
AND PARTICULARS OF DUTIES (AS REQUESTED IN CIRCULAR 1/54 WALES)

Medical Officer of Health—

DR. M. J. DONELAN, M.B., B.CH., D.PH.

Usual duties of a Medical Officer in an Urban District

Sanitary Inspector, etc.—Whole time :

G. R DAVIES, M.R.SAN.I., M.S.I.A.

Certificated Sanitary Inspector, and Certificated Inspector of Meat
and other Foods, The Royal Sanitary Institute.

Sanitary Inspector ; Inspector of Meat & other Foods ; Public Cleansing
Officer ; Shops Acts Inspector ; Rodent Officer ; Petroleum Officer.

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Rhymney Urban District Council.*

Mr. Chairman and Members,

We beg to submit the Annual Report on the vital statistics and Sanitary conditions of your district for the year 1954. This has been prepared on the lines of that for 1951, as indicated in Circular 1/54 (Wales), dated 12th January, 1954, Circular 28/54 (Wales) dated 15/12/54 issued by the Welsh Board of Health

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

The District is situated at the top of the Rhymney Valley, in the north west corner of Monmouthshire, a small portion of the upper end being in the southern extremity of the County of Breconshire. On the west it is separated from Glamorgan and the Urban District of Gellygaer by the River Rhymney; on the east by the Tysswg Brook and the Urban District of Tredegar; on the north by Breconshire, and on the south by the Urban District of Bedwellty. It covers an area of 2,648 acres. For all administrative purposes, the whole area is included in the County of Monmouthshire.

Coalmining is the chief industry, and many of the workmen are employed in the collieries situated outside the Urban area. There are no pit-head baths for the workmen employed at Mchaven Colliery, Aber-tysswg. Pidwellt Colliery closed down during December, 1953

Over the years the Council have from time to time expressed their concern over the need for alternative light employment for men who have had to give up colliery work through industrial disease or injury.

Clothing Factory. Production commenced towards the end of 1948. As is usual in in this type of factory, it is female labour that is chiefly employed.

Rhymney Engineering Works. Although the only means of road transport to and from this factory is through our district, it is actually situated in the Urban District of Gellygaer.

Population at Census, 1921	.....	.....	11,690
Population at Census, 1931	.....	.....	10,506
Population at Census, 1951	.....	.....	9,134

**Estimated Resident Population supplied Yearly by the Registrar General
over the last 22 years.**

1933	.....	.....	10,410	1944	.....	.....	8,881
1934	.....	.....	10,280	1945	.....	.....	8,762
1935	.....	.....	10,050	1946	.....	.....	8,773
1936	.....	.....	9,900	1947	.....	.....	8,694
1937	.....	.....	9,576	1948	.....	.....	9,058
1938	.....	.....	9,437	1949	.....	.....	9,137
1939	.....	.....	9,260	1950	.....	.....	9,070
1940	.....	.....	9,625	1951	.....	.....	9,049
1941	.....	.....	9,814	1952	.....	.....	9,006
1942	.....	.....	9,233	1953	.....	.....	8,980
1943	.....	.....	9,101	1954	.....	.....	8,920

The Statistics for 1954, are based upon the estimated resident population of 8,920 as supplied by the Registrar General.

Area of the District in Acres	.....	2,647.94
Rateable Value (31st March, 1954)	.....	£29,556
Penny Rate Product 31st March, 1954)	.....	£106/7/6

LIVE BIRTHS.

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	
Legitimate	128	70	58	Birth-rate per 1,000 of the
Illegitimate	3	2	1	population.....
				 14.6

Out of the total of 131 births, 69 of the births took place in hospitals or outside the area.

STILL BIRTHS.

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	
Illegitimate	—	—	—	Rate per 1,000 total live
Legitimate	3	2	1	and still-births
				 22.4

The Still - Birth Rate for England and Wales per 1,000 total live and still - births is 21.08

The Still-Birth rate per 1000 of the population is 0.33 & for Mon'shire 0.47

DEATHS.

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
Death Rate per 1000 of the			
Population		11.65	104 63 41

Number of women dying in or in consequence of childbirth : 2

The Maternal Mortality Rate per 1000 total live and still - births is 14.9 and for the County 1.49

DEATHS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE.

<i>Sex</i>	<i>Age</i>	<i>Cause of Death</i>	<i>Where Born</i>	<i>Where Died</i>
Female	6 days	Spina Bifida	Home	Home
Female	1 day	Prematurity	Hospital	Hospital
Male	1 mth	Broncho Pneu.	Home	Home
Male	2 weeks	Meningitis	Hospital	Hospital
Male	15 hrs	Prematurity	Hospital	Hospital

Death Rate for Infants under one year of age :
per 1000 live births 38.2

There were 5 deaths under one year of age.
(All legitimate births)

STATISTICS FOR ENGLAND AND WALES, ETC., 1954

	<i>Death Rate (all causes)</i>	<i>Live Birth Rate per 1,000 total Population</i>	<i>Total Deaths under 1 year (Rate per 1,000 Live Births)</i>
England and Wales	12.04	16.9	47.2
Monmouthshire	11.61	16.26	39.67
Rhymney	11.65	14.6	38.2
Bedwas & Machen	10.2	19.43	37.8
Blaenavon	11.7	10.9	66.6
Nantyglo & Blaina	14.5	15.3	29.07

Our rates compare favourably with those for England & Wales, and the County. The death rate at all ages is .39 less than that for England & Wales, but the same as that for the County, and the rate for deaths under 1 year of age 9.0 less than that for England and Wales, and 1.47 less than the rate for the County. The birth-rate is 2.3 less than that of England & Wales, and 1.66 under that of the County.

For year 1953, the Death Rate (all ages) was 11.58, the Birth Rate 16.03, and the Infantile Death Rate 27.7

**TABLE OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS FOR THE PAST 21 YEARS
AND COMPARISON WITH RATES FOR ENGLAND AND WALES**

Year	GENERAL DEATH RATE		INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE		BIRTH RATE	
	Rhymney	England & Wales	Rhymney	England & Wales	Rhymney	England & Wales
1934	13.03	11.8	46.63	59.0	18.77	14.8
1935	14.12	11.7	74.0	57.0	16.11	14.7
1936	12.7	12.1	51.6	59.0	17.5	14.8
1937	13.5	12.4	110.3	58.0	15.2	14.9
1938	13.3	11.6	27.9	53.0	18.96	15.1
1939	14.02	12.1	27.02	50.0	15.3	15.0
1940	13.7	14.3	51.7	55.0	17.5	14.6
1941	12.9	12.9	43.2	59.0	15.18	14.2
1942	14.18	11.6	91.8	49.0	20.04	15.8
1943	11.09	12.1	80.16	49.0	21.53	16.5
1944	12.9	11.6	78.53	46.0	21.5	17.6
1945	11.9	11.4	76.9	46.0	16.3	16.1
1946	13.5	11.5	78.3	43.0	18.9	19.1
1947	11.3	12.0	44.2	41.0	20.8	20.5
1948	12.6	10.8	64.8	34.0	20.4	17.9
1949	14.3	11.7	50.0	32.0	17.5	16.7
1950	12.5	11.6	66.6	29.8	19.8	15.8
1951	14.6	12.5	73.5	29.6	15.02	15.5
1952	11.8	11.3	8.06	27.6	13.7	15.3
1953	11.58	11.4	27.7	26.8	16.03	15.5
1954	11.65	12.04	38.2	47.2	14.6	16.9

Deaths from Measles (all ages) 0

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) 0

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) 14

Deaths from Heart Diseases 41

Particulars of unusual or excessive mortality
during the year None

HOSPITALS. The National Health Service Act, 1946, lays on the Minister of Health the duty of providing hospital and specialist services.

The Minister discharges this duty principally through Regional Hospital Boards, acting as his agents. For the control and management (*i.e.* for the whole business of day to day administration) of groups of hospitals, Hospital Management Committees in turn act as agents of the Regional Boards.

The Rhymney and Sirhowy Valleys Hospital Management Committee is responsible for the control and management of hospitals, ches. clinics, etc., in the area.

ADMISSION OF PATIENTS TO HOSPITAL.

GENERAL MEDICAL AND SURGICAL CONDITIONS. The family doctor (1) arranges admission of the acute emergency direct with the hospital, and (2) refers the non-urgent case to be seen as an out-patient. If considered necessary, hospitals outside the group can also be used by arrangement, as in the NEW SERVICE, there are no territorial boundaries.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES. Arrangements for admission are made through the Local Authority Health Department as considered necessary.

MATERNITY. Cases are admitted by direct arrangements between the Ante-Natal Clinic Doctor and the County Infirmary.

TUBERCULOSIS. Reference by the family doctor of patients to the Chest Specialists in attendance at the Chest Clinics for opinion, investigation, or treatment, continues as in the past. Admissions to Sanatoria or Hospital are arranged through the Tuberculosis Division of the Welsh Regional Board on direct recommendation of the Chest Physician.

SPECIALIST SERVICE ON THE HOME. The family doctor seeks a specialist for domicilliary service only if the patient is too ill to attend at the hospital.

AMBULANCE SERVICE. In this area, the Mon. County Council are statutorily responsible for the provision of an adequate service of ambulances and transport for all National Health purposes, including the transport of patients to and from hospital, and inter-hospital transfers.

CONVALESCENT TREATMENT. For the purposes of the National Health Service Act, Convalescence can be divided into two classes. Firstly, there is convalescence which is a continuation and an integral part of hospital treatment, *i.e.*, medical and nursing care is essential; this type of convalescence is the responsibility of the Hospital Management Committee.

Secondly, there is convalescence where medical and nursing care is *not* required and where the patient only needs a rest holiday in suitable surroundings; the Hospital Management Committee is not empowered to provide this type of convalescence, but it *may* be provided by the Local Health Authority (Mon. C.C. for this area) under Section 28 of the National Health Act.

SPA TREATMENT. This form of treatment will be provided on prescription by the patient's doctor, supplemented by specialist recommendation. The procedure requires the hospital matron to arrange for out-patient specialist examination on production by the patient of a medical certificate suggesting Spa treatment. Admission is then arranged (via the Hospital Management Committee) by the Regional Hospital Board to Spa Centres, which at the moment are outside the Welsh Region.

SUPPLIES OF DIPHTHERIA ANTI-TOXIN. Hospitals for infectious diseases hold stocks of diphtheria anti-toxin and are prepared to supply it to doctors on demand, for emergency use. As these hospitals are not readily accessible, small stocks are also held (for this area) at the Redwood Memorial Hospital.

SUPPLY OF VACCINES, SERA, ETC. Stocks of vaccine, lymph and diphtheria prophylactic are being held at laboratories of the Public Health Laboratory Service for issue *free* of charge to the Medical Officer of Health, or to practitioners taking part in Local Health Authorities' arrangements under Section 26 of the National Health Service Act.

Certain other materials of this kind, not readily obtainable at present from trade sources, will also be available through the Public Health Laboratory Service, *e.g.* measles serum, typhus vaccine, rabies vaccine, botulinum antitoxin, anti-anthrax serum and anti-snake venom.

CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION. The Central Administration Offices of the Hospital Management Committee are based at Caerphilly District Miners' Hospital, St. Martin's Road, Caerphilly.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER SUPPLY. The conditions remain the same as at the end of last year, the supply is ample and of good quality. The Rhymney Urban District Council is a contributory authority to the Rhymney Valley Water Board, with representation thereon. Forty-six houses at Princetown and Rhymney Bridge are supplied by the Tredegar Urban District Council.

Source A. Gathering ground at Blaen Rhymney; this empties into (1) Old Reservoir, 12,000,000 gallons, (2) New Reservoir, 44,000,000 gallons; the property of the Rhymney Valley Water Board.

Source B. From the Upper Neuadd Reservoir the property of Taff Fechan Supply Board. Capacity, 350,000,000 gallons.

Springs (2 outlying farmhouses, and 11 isolated cottages). On the whole, these have been fairly successful throughout the year.

Reports upon Water Samples, etc.

	<i>Number satisfactory</i>	<i>Number unsatisfactory</i>
1. (a) Bacteriological examination of raw water	9	32
(b) Bacteriological examination of treated water	56	1
(c) Chemical Analyses	1	1
2. (a) Plumbo Solvent Action	None	
(b) Details of contamination by lead, precautions taken, and number and results of analyses	No Plumbo solvency	

3. (a) Number of houses supplied from public water mains :	
(i) Direct to houses	253
(ii) By means of stand-pipes	23
(b) Approximate population supplied from public water mains :	
(i) Direct to houses	8800
(ii) By means of stand-pipes	80
4. Action in respect of any form of con- tamination	Increased Chlorination

Adequate chlorination is maintained at all times.

DRAINAGE, SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL. With the exception of minor improvement and the clearing of blockages, the sewers have, on the whole, worked satisfactorily throughout the year. The Rhymney Urban District Council is a contributory authority to the Rhymney Valley Sewerage Board, with representatives thereon.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION. With the exception of out-lying houses and isolated farmhouses, the whole district is served by the water carriage system. A scheme was prepared during 1939, for the laying of a sewer at Princetown and Rhymney Bridge (50 houses) and for the conversion of the privies and pail closets to water-closets, but owing to the outbreak of war, an enquiry arranged by the Ministry had to be abandoned. It is suggested that the Council give consideration to this matter in the near future.

PUBLIC LAVATORIES, ETC. Both sections of the centrally situated convenience continues to be damaged and abused by persons of both sexes. The only other provision throughout the district for the public are obsolete urinals. It is hoped to replace these in the near future

COLLECTION OF HOUSE REFUSE AND STREET CLEANSING. This service is carried out by direct labour, and under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector. The District Council are also responsible for the cleansing of Trunk, Class 1 and Class 2 Roads, and for the surface water gullies on these roads. Disposal of refuse takes place upon open tips, and collections are made from all premises three times a week.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, SHOPS AND OFFICES. Sanitary conveniences have been provided in all cases where necessary. Attention is also given to Section 10 (1) (b) (Temperature).

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949—Rats and Mice

The methods used, and which have proved to be most successful, are those advocated by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, who make a grant to the Council of 50 per cent. of the cost of a large part of the work. The whole sewerage system of the district was treated twice during the year. New sewers laid to serve new houses were found to be free from rats. Treatments were also carried out at dwelling-houses, business premises, refuse tips and river banks, etc.

The work carried out under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector who is helped by a Rodent Operator, and for sewer treatments three temporary men are engaged every six months.

Co-operation and advice given by Mr. R. Davies, Divisional Rodent Officer, and also by the Divisional Rodent Inspector, is appreciated.

HOUSING

There are at least between 500 and 600 houses in the area that can be considered for demolition, as these aged and worn out properties are without reasonable facilities and conveniences, and over crowding in many instances also exists. More than 700 dwellings in the area were erected prior to the year 1875. Other old and substandard dwellings (additional to 500 to 600 houses referred to in first paragraph above) which are also of obsolete layout could have many years of useful life, especially so, if the owners took advantage of improvement grants to recondition them. Alternatively, and probably a much better scheme, would be for the Council to purchase them over a period of years, and carry out the works of improvement under a properly planned programme.

By 31st August, 1955, the Council are expected to inform the Minister of their proposals for dealing with unfit houses, and give their intended programme for the following five years. On the assumption that possibly the number of new houses that can be erected each year is 40, the number of houses that can be included in clearance schemes over five years would be 200, and 12 years would be necessary to deal with between 500 and 600 houses.

Repair work was carried out to a number of houses during the year, but in the majority of cases, this is only carried out by the owners after Informal and Statutory Notices have been served upon them. This work can really only be termed "first aid repairs."

The work of building 40 traditional type houses (later increased to 42 on the Ty Coch site) was commenced during April 1951. Thirty were tenanted during 1953, ten during 1954 and the last two during January 1955. Towards the end of 1952, on the same site, another Contractor commenced the erection of 74 "Wates" type houses, and by 31st December, 1954, sixty six were tenanted. Fifty houses of this type are also being erected at Abertysswg and two were occupied during January 1955. *Garden City Site*—during 1955, it is intended to commence the erection of 80 "Wates" type houses upon this site.

POST WAR NEW HOUSING.

1947	.....	.....	50 Aluminium Bungalows tenanted.
1948	.....	.....	52 Steel Houses tenanted.
1949	.....	.....	30 Tradition Type Houses tenanted.
1950	.....	.....	45 Traditional Type Houses tenanted
1951	.....	.....	5 Traditional Type Houses tenanted.
1952	....	.....	Nil
1953	....	.....	30 Traditional Type Houses tenanted
1954	.....	.....	10 Traditional Type Houses tenanted
1954	.....	.....	66 Wates Type Houses tenanted

TOTAL NUMBER OF HOUSES OCCUPIED AND OWNED
BY THE COUNCIL AT THE END OF 1954 379

(The Cemetery House is included in the total)

HOUSING STATISTICS

- (1) Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the Year :
- 1 (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 126
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose (app) 300
- 2 (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 32
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose (app) 64
- 3 Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation 12
- 4 Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 94
- (2) Remedy of Defects without Service of Formal Notices :
- Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers 42
- (3) Action under Statutory Powers during the year :
- A—Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.
- 1 Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs Nil
- 2 Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices
- (a) By Owners Nil
- (b) By Local Authority in default of Owners Nil
- B—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :
- 1 Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 52
- 2 Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :
- (a) By Owners 37
(15 outstanding end of 1954).
- (b) By Local Authority in default of Owners Nil

C—Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :	
1	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made 12
2	Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders (House closed) 9
D—Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :	
1	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders are made Nil
	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit Nil

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS. 12 private houses were found to be infested, and the whole premises treated.

The methods adopted are :

(1) Cimex Patent Block Disinfestators, and then spraying with insecticide.

(2) Removal of skirting boards, etc., and using blow-lamp.

The work of disinfestation is carried out by the Local Authority. Insecticides are also given (free) to tenants.

The undermentioned insecticides and fumigants are used :

Zaldecide, Cimex, Solution "B", Cooper's Bed Bug Spray, Killgercide, etc.

Twenty-five houses infested with either ants, crickets, beetles or wasps' nests were also treated.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

(104 Intimation Notices or Letters and 85 Statutory Notices were served).

Nuisances Detected or Repairs Required				Total
1.	Defective and Choked W.C. Drains	.....	.....	8
2.	Provide or Rebuild W.C. or Privy Accommodation	.....	.....	2
3.	To open and repair slop drains	.....	.....	8
4.	To drain, flush, cleanse or repair urinals	.....	.....	0
5.	To provide or repair cisterns in W.C.s	.....	.....	3
6.	To pave and repair back-yard or forecourt	.....	.....	6
7.	Throwing of house refuse, etc.	.....	Circular letters distributed	
8.	To cleanse cesspools	.....	.....	0
9.	To cleanse dwelling-houses and bedding	.....	.....	2
10.	To provide and repair rainwater troughing and downspouts	.....	.....	41
11.	To repair drain vent or soil pipes	.....	.....	0
12.	To limewash pig or chicken cot (or remove)	.....	.....	1
13.	To prevent overcrowding	.....	.....	0
14.	To prevent pollution of streams, rivers, or ponds	.....	.....	0
15.	To repair defective house roofs causing dampness	.....	.....	44
16.	To provide sinks in houses	.....	.....	0
17.	To provide or repair coal buildings	.....	.....	6
18.	To cleanse water courses	.....	.....	0
19.	To repair W.C. walls, roofs, doors and floors	.....	.....	16
20.	To provide new W.C. pans	.....	.....	7
21.	To provide new oven	.....	.....	2

22.	To repair privies or provide new pails	.....	.....	.....	0
23.	To provide or repair pantries	.....	.....	.....	6
24.	To repair fireplaces	.....	.....	.....	7
25.	To repair or take down dangerous chimney stacks and rebuild				11
26.	To replaster walls	.....	.....	.....	12
27.	To rebuild boundary or retaining walls	.....	.....	.....	3
28.	To repair house floors	.....	.....	.....	12
29.	To repair broken ceilings	.....	.....	.....	8
30.	To provide slop drains	.....	.....	.....	0
31.	Defective conditions of main walls	.....	.....	.....	19
32.	Defective condition of house doors or windows	.....	.....	.....	30
33.	Other nuisances	.....	.....	.....	17

NO HOUSES WERE ERECTED DURING THE YEAR BY PRIVATE ENTERPRISE

RENT AND MORTGAGE INTEREST RESTRICTION ACTS, 1920 - 1939. There were no applications for certificates during the year.

HOUSING REPAIRS (Increase of Rent) REGULATIONS 1954
There were no applications during the year for "Certificates of Disrepair"

PROSECUTIONS INSTITUTED DURING THE YEAR :
Nil.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOODS

MILK

There are 14 retail distributors of milk in the area, and they receive their supplies of pasteurised or T.T. pasteurised milk in sealed bottles for delivery to consumers. Empty bottles are returned to the wholesale suppliers' factories for washing and sterilization, etc. This method does away with the operation of bottle washing, storing, filling and sealing in numerous small buildings, where satisfactory hygiene would be difficult to attain, and in some cases, impossible. During the year, 70 samples were submitted for examination to the Public Health Laboratory. Five of the samples failed to pass the phosphatase test, and one failed to pass the methylene blue test. This matter was taken up with the two wholesale supplier concerned, and also with the two Chief Sanitary Inspectors of the areas where the pasteurisation plants are situated.

MEAT CONDEMNED DURING THE YEAR. 5 lbs liver, 100 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs bacon. 1 pigs head and tongue.

NUMBER OF ANIMALS KILLED by farmers, cottagers, etc., during the year : Pigs, 34 Localised Tuberculosis (head) was detected in one pig. Since September 1939, the two local private slaughterhouses have only been used occasionally for the slaughter of pigs kept by cottagers, etc., During 1954, there was no application for a licence in respect of either slaughterhouse. Since the Ministry's control of slaughtering came to an end in July 1954, the meat consumed in this area is mostly received from Brynmawr Slaughterhouse.

PUBLIC HEALTH MEAT REGULATIONS, 1924. These Regulations have been carried out in a satisfactory manner on the whole.

ICE CREAM (HEAT TREATMENT, ETC.) REGULATIONS, 1947, AND SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938. There are Sixteen retailers in the area, and six of these are retailer-producers. One of them is also a wholesaler.

78 samples were submitted for examination during the year, and 62 were graded 1; 15 were graded 2; and 1 graded 3

FISH FRYING AND CHIP POTATO SHOPS, ETC. Visits were made and attention given to all appliances used in connection with this trade, respecting cleanliness, etc.

BAKEHOUSES. Limewashing and general cleanliness receives attention.

OTHER FOODS CONDEMNED. 144 tins fruit; 30 tins meat; 27 tins vegetables; 2 tins soup; 10 tins milk; 2 tins fish. 130½ lbs. cheese

SHOPS, STORES. There has been no cause for complaint as to the protection of meat from contamination. All butcher shops have refrigerators. The importance of personal cleanliness, also the cleanliness of premises, equipment and utensils, was impressed upon food-handlers and leaflets issued.

FOOD POISONING OUTBREAKS

(a) Total number of outbreaks	.....	None
(b) Number of cases	.....	None
(c) Number of deaths	.....	None
(d) Organisms or other agents responsible, with number of outbreaks attributable to each	.....	None
(e) Foods involved, with number of outbreaks associated with each food	.....	None

By-laws under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938

These came into operation on 26th April 1954

THE PUBLIC HEALTH (INFECTIOUS DISEASE) REGULATIONS 1953

From 1st April 1953, to control Food Poisoning the Council gave the Medical Officer of Health power authorising immediate issuing of NOTICES in an emergency, to prevent sufferers or "carriers" of infectious diseases working in food trades.

**PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIONS
AND OTHER DISEASES**

1954—24 Cases (Pulmonary Tuberculosis 8 ; Whooping Cough 12 ; Scarlet Fever 1 ; Puerperal Pyrexia 3)

1953—258 Cases (226 Measles ; 4 Puerperal Pyrexia ; 1 Acute Primary Pneumonia; 3 Scarlet Fever; 1 Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis; 7 Pulmonary Tuberculosis ; 3 Poliomyelitis ; 3 Whooping Cough.

1952—19 Cases (Pulmonary Tuberculosis, 6; Whooping Cough, 3; Paratyphoid, 6; Measles, 2; Puerperal Pyrexia, 2).

1951—206 Cases (Whooping Cough, 100; Measles, 94; Ophthalmia Neonatorum, 1; Tuberculosis, 9; Scarlet Fever, 1; Erysipelas, 1).

TOTAL NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH WARD

Upper Ward	.....	.....	.....	16 cases
Middle Ward	.....	.....	.....	2 cases
Lower Ward	.....	.....	.....	5 cases
Abertysswg Ward	.....	.....	.....	1 cases

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS)

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Small Pox	Nil	Nil	Nil
Scarlet Fever	1	Nil	Nil
Diphtheria	Nil	Nil	Nil
Enteric Fever (incl. Paratyphoid)	Nil	Nil	Nil
Puerperal Pyrexia	3	3	Nil
Acute Pneumonia (Primary or Influenzal)	Nil	Nil	1
Other diseases generally notifiable (specify disease).			
Cerebro Spinal Fever	Nil	Nil	Nil
Erysipelas	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Nil	Nil	Nil
Acute Poliomyelitis	Nil	Nil	Nil
Dysentery	Nil	Nil	Nil
Whooping Cough	12	Nil	Nil
Measles	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other diseases notifiable locally (specify disease)	Nil	Nil	Nil

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Cases						
Notified	Treated		Vision Un- impaired	Vision Impaired	Total Blindness	Deaths
	At Home	In Hos- pital				
Nil						

The Sanitary Inspector visits each house and if the patient is to be treated at home, he advises how to carry out isolation there.

Small pox—No Case. Erysipelas—No case

TUBERCULOSIS

Deaths from Tuberculosis of the respiratory system 3 ; death rate per 1000 living, 0.33; deaths from other forms of Tubercular Diseases Nil ; death rate per 1,000 living, Nil ; death rate from all forms of Tuberculosis, 0.33 Last year the death rate from Pulmonary Tuberculosis was 0.11 ; from other Tubercular Diseases Nil ; and from all forms of Tuberculosis, 0.11

New Cases and Mortality during 1954

The following table shows the age and sex distribution of the notified cases and of the deaths :—

	NEW CASES—8				DEATHS—3			
Age Periods	Respiratory 8		Non- Respiratory 0		Respiratory 3		Non- Respiratory 0	
	8 M	8 F	0 M	3 F	3 M	0 F	0 M	0 F
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards	1	—	—	—	3	—	—	—
Totals	8	—	—	—	3	—	—	—

There were three deaths from Respiratory Tuberculosis but no deaths from the non pulmonary type. Two the deaths had not been notified. All were associated with pneumoconiosis, and post mortems were carried out and inquests held.

Patients from the district are admitted to the following Institutions :

1. Glan Ely Hospital, near Cardiff.
2. North Wales Sanatorium, Denbigh.
3. Cefn Mabley Hospital, near Cardiff.
4. Mardy Hospital, Merthyr Tydfil.
5. Gellygaer Hospital.
6. South Wales Sanatorium, Talgarth.
7. Energlyn Hospital, Caerphilly.
8. Annexe, Chepstow.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936, SECTION 172

Section 172. This Section which enforces the compulsory removal of a patient suffering from tuberculosis and in an infectious state to hospital when there is no proper accommodation at the house, was not made use of.

Tuberculosis 8 new cases (all pulmonary) were notified during the year 1954

As stated earlier in this report, the family doctor sends patients to Chest Specialists in attendance at the Chest Clinics, for opinion, investigation or treatment. When considered necessary, the Chest Physician also recommends admission to Sanatoria or Hospital. For details of Monmouthshire County Council arrangements, etc., please see County Medical Officer's Annual report.

During May 1950 & July 1952 the Mass Radiography Service visited Rhymney and was available to the general population. It is hoped that it will be possible for a return visit to be made in the near future.

Diphtheria. The need of immunisation was advertised by the Monmouthshire County Council.

No case was notified during the year. and no deaths.

Enteric Fever. No case. notified and no deaths.

Polomyelitis. no case notified and no deaths.

Para-typhoid. No cases notified and no deaths.

Pneumonia (acute-influenzal and acute primary). no case notified
There was 1 death from Pneumonia.

Encephalitis Lethargica. No case notified. and no deaths

Ophthalmia Neonatorum. No case notified. and no deaths

Dysentery. No case notified.

Influenza. No deaths.

Bronchitis. Eight deaths.

There is no steam disinfectors in the district, and no facilities for dealing with verminous persons and their belongings. It is hoped that it will be possible in the near future for these services to be provided.

In conclusion, we again wish to thank the Chairman and Members of the Council for the interest shown and support given in Public Health, etc., matters, and to express our appreciation to the Council Staff for their co-operation throughout the year.

We remain, Mr. Chairman and Members,

Yours faithfully,

M. J. DONELAN,

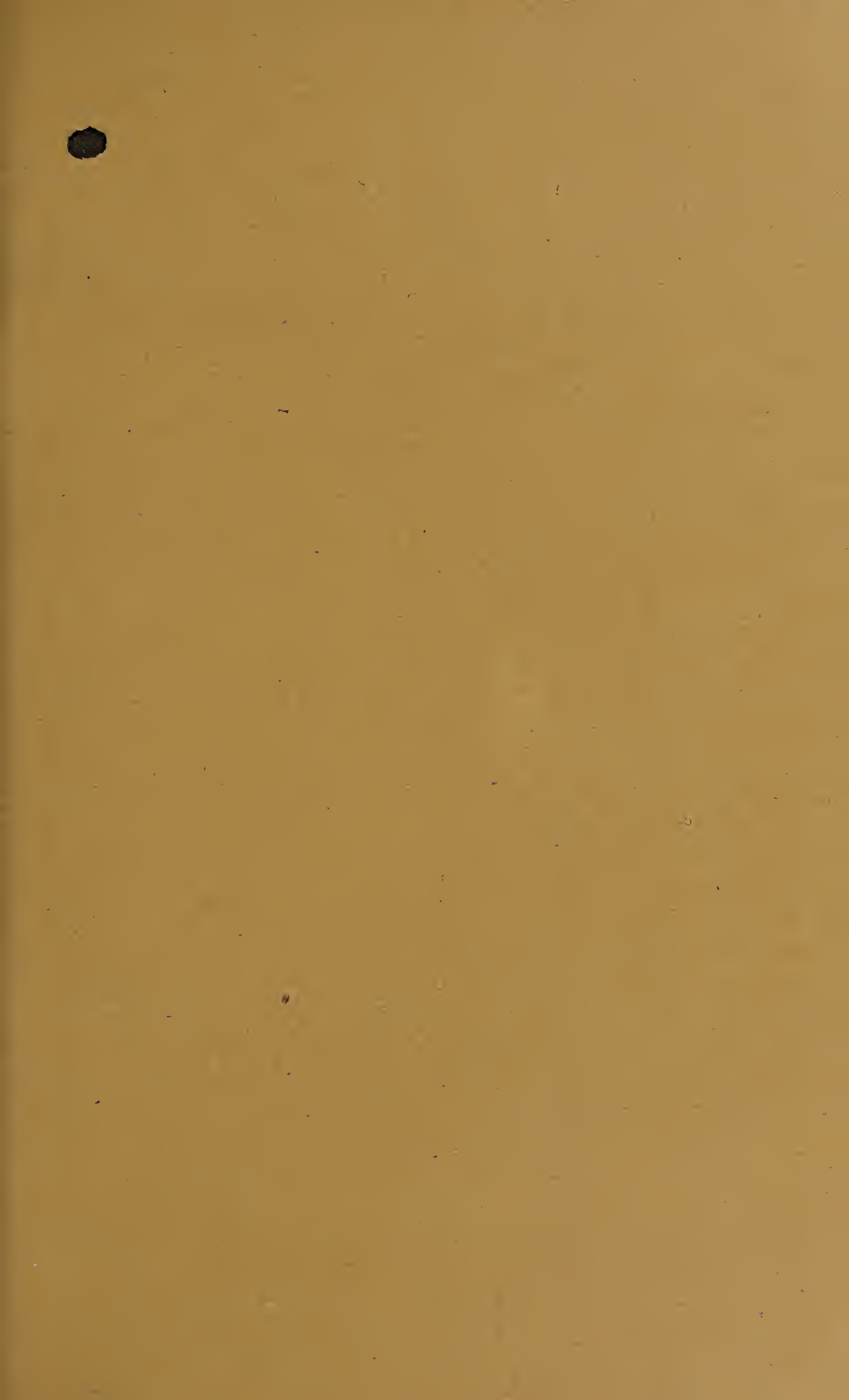
Medical Officer of Health.

G. R. DAVIES,

Sanitary Inspector, etc.

4th May, 1955





PROLE & SON, EBBW VALE
